

Subj: Good News from Athens
Date: 11/8/2009 7:26:25 A.M. Central Standard Time
From: scott.mccracken@iteams.org
To: scott.mccracken@iteams.org

Dear Praying Friends,

We have news to praise God for, which includes...

1. God continues to woo Muslim women. We believe we are on the verge of a harvest as we are seeing unprecedented interest from the women. A few weekends ago, one of the women on the Athens team had a day off and was asked by some Muslim refugees to have a Bible study. She went planning for a 30-40 minute study, and finally forced an ending after SEVEN HOURS of women asking question after question after question.

Another team member writes this week: Thursday was Farsi day and we had a full tea house... One of the refugee women was talking about how we had read in the Bible about God releasing Peter from prison. She was telling that we prayed for her son who was in jail and the next day he was released. Another woman "P" said she wanted to read this for herself. We got her a Farsi Bible and she sat for the rest of the time pouring over the Word. Afterward, she said she thought it was very beautiful and she wanted to read more. Another young woman "F" who I met on Monday and who speaks a little English also took a Farsi Bible and some other literature. She said she liked what she heard that day and wanted to learn more. I noticed several other people around the room reading Bibles and in the middle of the day we put out more Bibles because the ones we had put out in the morning were gone.

Another team member wrote: Last week at our Farsi lunch event, we had a lady at the lunch table try to tell the other ladies that Christians are "bad people" and that they should not be listening to the message that was given earlier, they only nice to us because they want us to be Christians. She picked the wrong table. The first lady said, "these Christians prayed to Jesus for my son to be released from prison and the next day he was released". The next lady said, "I've read the injil (new testament), it makes me cry. The Quran has never affected me that way". The next woman said, "these Christians found me a place to live when my family was living in the park". They give us showers, and clothes and food. They love our children even though we are Muslim and not Christian. You cannot call them "bad people", they are good. Those of us sitting there did not even have to open our mouth to defend ourselves.

She also wrote: Almost all of the women that come to shower ministry are very close to making decisions to follow Jesus. One lady described herself this week as "below my waist all of me is Christian, and my left side, above my waist is Christian". "My heart and right side is still Muslim because I am afraid". Pray that God will take away "Z's" fear. What she is afraid of, will likely happen, but what she doesn't understand yet, is that with Jesus in her heart, she won't face it alone and He will be enough to see her through the difficult days.

The Team Leader writes: An Afghan woman came to our ministry center two weeks ago for the first time. After taking in the environment, she pulled one of our Farsi-speaking teammates to the side and, in a whisper, shared with her that she had seen Jesus in a vision seven years before. The Afghan woman was intrigued by the vision, but never

had an opportunity to learn more. Now, with both excitement and fear, she is asking questions and seeking to know this Jesus who has been pursuing her for so long. Praise God for His continued work!

2. Our Nest (a housing and discipleship ministry) is undergoing some exciting changes. It is beginning to focus on the needs of women and children, rather than single men. One family (a single Afghan woman with four children) is now living in the house. The life change in this family is evident to all! Praise God for His continued work!

Additionally, the team will not be re-newing the lease on this current house. The plan is to look for some smaller less expensive apartments, each one focused on a particular kind of resident (i.e., one for women and children, one for single men, etc.)

Thanks for your prayers and investments for this strategic and practical ministry.

3. Thanks to all who prayed for the Prayer Summit on Anti-Trafficking issues that Scott attended this last week. It was a VERY ENCOURAGING time with vision, unity, commitment, and forward movement. More details later.

We are so grateful for you,

Scott and Vicki McCracken

--
Scott & Vicki McCracken
Tel: (30) 210-65-28-191
scott.mccracken@iteams.org
<http://elliebomccracken.blogspot.com>
<http://refminathens.blogspot.com>